	Application No.	Applicant(s)
Notice of Allowability .	09/715,693	MIR, NADER F.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Roberta A. Shand	2665
The MAILING DATE of this communication appearable claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT Richard of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313	(OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this apport or other appropriate communication GHTS. This application is subject to and MPEP 1308.	olication. If not included will be mailed in due course. THIS
1. A This communication is responsive to <u>amendment filed Sept</u>	<u>ember 15, 2005</u> .	
2. X The allowed claim(s) is/are <u>1, 4-14, 16-20 and 22, renumber</u>	<u> pred 1-18</u> .	•
 Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority und a)	been received. been received in Application No	
Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMI THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.		complying with the requirements
 A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submit INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which give 		
 CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must (a)	on's Patent Drawing Review (PTO- Amendment / Comment or in the C	office action of
 DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the depose attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT F 		
Attachment(s) 1. □ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	5. ☐ Notice of Informal P	atent Application (PTO-152)
2. Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)		 6. ☑ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date <u>09/30/2005</u>. 7. ☑ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
 Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08 Paper No./Mail Date 		
 Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material 	8. X Examiner's Stateme	ent of Reasons for Allowance
	9.	

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EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

2. Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Jean Macheledt on Friday, September 30, 2005.

The application has been amended as follows:

Claim 1,

Line 3, "external", has been replace with, --first, second and third external--.

Line 4, "external", has been replace with, --first, second and third external--.

Line 27, "said external first input node and each of said nodes corresponding with an incoming-link of said bi-directional couplings", has been replaced with, —said node corresponding with said first external input--.

Line 30, "said external first output node and each of said nodes corresponding with an outgoing-link of said bi-directional couplings", has been replaced with, --said node corresponding with said first external output--.

3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: the prior art does not teach or fairly suggest for routing a plurality of data segments containing address information, comprising: a first second and third switch element each comprising a respective external input

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for routing data segments into the network and a respective external output for routing data segment out of the network; a first bi-directional coupling between the first and second switch elements, a second bi-directional coupling between the first and third switch elements, and a third bi-directional coupling between the second and third switch elements; and a first controller for interrogating the address information of each of the segments inbound into the first switch element, any of the inbound data segments received by the first switch element to be directed out along a selected exit path way; whereby the exit pathway for any inbound data segments received is selected according to the address information of the inbound data segment, and if a contention exists for the exit pathway, further according to a priority designator of the data: the exit pathway to be selected from the group consisting of: if the first switch element is an outbound destination for the data, the first external output and one of the bi-directional couplings in communication with the first switch element; the external input is in direct communication with a first input port processor, and the external output with the first output port processor, each bi-directional coupling comprises an optical fiber link and nay of the data segments that arrive at the first input port processor, do so as optical signals; the first switch element comprises a photonic wavelength converter having at least one node to correspond with an external first input and an external first output and at least two nodes to correspond with each of the bi-directional couplings; said node corresponding with said first external input is in direct communication with a respective optical wavelength demultiplexor; and said node corresponding with said first external output is in direct communication with a respective optical wavelength multiplexor, as recited in independent claim 1, 4, 7, 14-18, 20 and 22.

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4. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

- 5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Roberta A Shand whose telephone number is 571-272-3161. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 9:00am-5:30pm.
- 6. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Huy Vu can be reached on 571-272-3155. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.
- 7. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Roberta A Shand Examiner

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STEVEN NGUYEN PRIMARY EXAMINER